(3) Design and development of Advanced Heavy Water Reactor (AHWR) using Thorium based fuel. Pre-licensing safety review of the AHWR has been completed by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB).

(4) India has developed technologies to reprocess irradiated Thorium fuel, and in fabricating Uranium-233 based fuel.

Mining in Gopalpur and Manoharpur coalfields

†2453. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 75 million tonnes of coal mining is not being done in Gopalpur and Manoharpur coalfields;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether a reserve of 200 million tonnes of coal has been located in this area;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) when and to whom the responsibility of coal mining in the above coalfields was entrusted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (d) No, Sir. The estimated coal reserves in the Gopalpur-Manoharpur Tract of Ib Valley Coalfield under jurisdiction of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) are around 5000 million tonnes and detailed exploration is continuing in this area. However, based on the detailed exploration conducted earlier in the area, Basundhra (West) Opencast Project (2.40 Mty) and Kulda Opencast Project (10.0 Mty) have been taken up by MCL during the Tenth Plan and these projects are under implementation.

(e) The responsibility of coal mining in Ib-Valley coalfields has been entrusted to MCL and MCL has planned to take up Garjanbahal (OCP) (10.0 Mty), Siramal OCP (8.0 M!y), Siarmal West Extension OCP (6.0 Mty) during the Eleventh Plan period after statutory clearances. Apart from MCL, 4 captive coal blocks namely Bijahan, Jamkhani, Manoharpur and Dip side of Manoharpur have been allotted for captive mining by Ministry of Coal till date. The expected total coal production from this area in the next 10-15 years time is around 50 million tonnes per year.

Transfer of land to CIL

2454. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1644 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th August, 2006 and state:

(a) whether after payment of 2.50 lakhs to different beneficiaries, the title deed of the land bas been transferred in the name of Coal India Limited; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.